

PRESS QUERY

COMPANY (OpUnit or Corporate): MCI

SUBJECT: Soil Samples -- Monsanto/IEPA

REPORTER & MEDIA: Casey Bukro, Chicago Tribune

TIME & DATE: November 11, 1980

QUESTION & RESPONSE:

Q. I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WILL BE RELEASING A REPORT ON THE DEAD CREEK AREA. CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT IT?

A. Monsanto has been assisting the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in determining the content of the soil samples and therefore the release of the information concerning the findings should come from the IEPA in Springfield. However, the results of both analyses were generally in agreement within the accuracy of the testing and sampling techniques.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA ON WHERE THE MATERIAL CAME FROM?

A. It would be purely speculation on my part to say where the material in Dead Creek came from.

Q. HAS MONSANTO EVER BEEN IMPLICATED AS THE CAUSE OF THE PROBLEM?

A. No. Keep in mind that Dead Creek is near a highly industrialized area. Monsanto has never been implicated as the source of the Dead Creek situation. The IEPA may have some ideas as to what the cause is, but I couldn't really say.

Q. DID MONSANTO EVER USE DEAD CREEK AS A DUMPING AREA?...SAY 20 YEARS AGO WHEN WASTE PRACTICES WERE DIFFERENT THAN THEY ARE TODAY.

A. No. Monsanto has never disposed of wastes in Dead Creek.

Q. HOW DID MONSANTO GET INVOLVED IN THE SOIL SAMPLING?

A. Monsanto offered to assist the IEPA in determining the soil content of Dead Creek. We had the analytical resources to help and as far as proximity, we were close. Monsanto, as a responsible industrial citizen of the community, is concerned about Dead Creek and we hope that our assistance will help resolve the situation.

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(The reporter said he had been in contact with IEPA in Springfield and will wait for its report.)
SOURCE OF ANSWER

File

HANDLED BY:

Sarah Gainer Collins